REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 20, 2007, pending Claims 1-13 were rejected and the rejection made final. In response Applicants have filed herewith a Request for Continued Examination and have amended independent Claims 1, 12, and 13. It should be noted, however, that these amendments are not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but merely to expedite prosecution, and that Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicants and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. On May 24, 2007, Applicants' counsel conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner and Primary Examiner Nathan Flynn, in which the present application and the applied art was discussed. It was agreed the amendments presented herein overcome the applied art as discussed below. The Examiners indicated, however, these amendments would not be considered in an Amendment After Final as an additional search would be required. It was also agreed the Examiner would telephone Applicants' counsel before the issuance of an Office Action should there be any further issues in this application.

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Of these claims, Claims 1, 12, and 13 are independent claims; the remaining claims are dependent claims. Claims 1, 3, and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,927) (hereinafter "Smith").

As best understood, Smith relates to an adapter card for managing connections between clients and a network server by operating a local memory on the adapter card to store user requested server responses, thereby reducing the number of required server connections. (Col. 2, lines 10-20). Although Smith discloses operating a local memory capable of storing information in the system memory, Smith does not disclose the use of a local memory for storing essential routing information while using the system memory for storage of the remaining work request, where there is no longer room in local memory.

Reducing the number of server connections by caching data in local memory stands in stark contrast to the present invention. As discussed in the specification, one of the advantages of the current invention, among others, is the reduction in chip area (local memory) required. (0051). This is accomplished by using the system memory in combination with the local memory for storage of non-essential (non-routing) information, thus allowing scale up and scale down with only a small increase or decrease in local memory size. (0051).

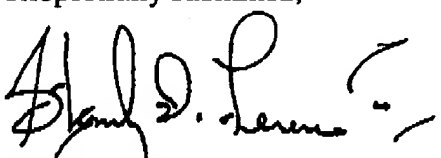
Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, "determining if there is room in the local memory for storing the transmission control information; if there is not sufficient room in the local memory, moving the transmission control information stored in the local memory to the interconnected memory and maintaining the association with the information other than transmission control information previously stored in the interconnected memory." (Claim 1, emphasis added). Claims 12 and 13 contain similar

language. The amendments are intended to clarify that the invention reduces the chip area required by utilizing the system memory in combination with the local memory.

It is respectfully submitted that Smith clearly falls short of invention as claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the applied art does not anticipate the present invention because, at the very least, "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction." *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *see also In re Marshall*, 198 U.S.P.Q. 344, 346 (C.C.P.A. 1978).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 12, and 13 fully distinguish over the applied art and are thus allowable. By virtue of dependence from Claim 1, it is thus also submitted that Claims 2-11 are also allowable at this juncture. In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 1-13, is presently in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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